

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 39, to read as follows:

The shelf described in FIGS. 1 to 4 is designed in particular for supporting articles in a refrigerator and comprises a glass panel 1 (possibly with an enameled edging to conceal the join with the plastic structure, the side walls also possibly concealing this join via the shadow they cast), equipped with a structure (or surround or frame) made of polypropylene 2. This assembly is obtained as follows: polypropylene granules (preferably filled with talc to improve the mechanical strength of the polypropylene) are heated in a plasticizing chamber of an injection-molding machine to a temperature that is high enough that the plastic can be injected and the molten material is injected into the mold or injection-molding machine to obtain the semi-finished product which, through the shrinkage of the plastic, will yield the structure 2. The material cools in the mold and solidifies from 160° C. in the form of a semicrystalline product. When the mold is open to remove the molded frame, the plastic reaches about 70° C. The shrinkage of the plastic then begins to occur to a significant extent. In the 4 minutes (and preferably in the 1 to 2 minutes) following removal from the mold, the surface 4 of the frame on which surface the panel is to rest possibly undergoes a surface treatment (for example of the plasma type), is preferably coated with adhesive (it being possible for handling to be automated) using an elastic adhesive (a channel--not depicted--may possibly be provided to accommodate the adhesive on the surface) and the glass panel is placed on the frame over the opening 29 of the frame (position a of the frame depicted in fine and dotted line in FIG. 2). Shrinkage then continues to occur (about 75% of the shrinkage takes place in the first 15 minutes, it being possible for final shrinkage to take several hours) until the frame reaches its definitive shape (position b of the frame depicted in thick line in FIG. 2). In this state, the frame mates with and mechanically holds the glass on its edge 3 in an edge receiving channel 36, with a compressive force of the order, for example, of 9 MPa

exerted on the edge of the glass. In a frame of the order of 420 mm wide, the final shrinkage may, for polypropylene, be as much as 4 mm. The assembly obtained is particularly robust and meets the safety standards.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 5, to read as follows:

The frame here comprises side frame portions 30, and front and rear frame portions 32 and 34, respectively. Each of the frame portions comprises a supporting surface 4 in the form of a lower wall of the frame, the lower wall having a free edge forming an end edge portion. Each of the frame portions also comprises a two lateral or side wall walls 5 with and an upper wall or part 6 having a free edge and forming a small rim protruding from the top face of the panel, the side wall having and a lower part 7 under the underside of the panel[[, a]]. A front extension 8 forming forms a handle for handling the shelf, a rear extension possibly with a channel 9 is provided for collecting or removing liquids in the event of a spillage on the shelf, and with an upstand 10 to prevent items from coming into contact with the rear wall of the refrigerator.